



# Public Notice

US Army Corps  
of Engineers

Sacramento District  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Number: 199900299

Date: February 2, 2006

Comments Due: March 5, 2006

**SUBJECT:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, (Corps) is evaluating a permit application to construct the Grant Line Road/State Route 99 Interchange Expansion and East Stockton Boulevard Realignment project, which would result in impacts to approximately 1.51 acres of jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands, in and adjacent to the Grant Line Channel and an unnamed tributary both of which are tributaries to the Sacramento River. This notice is to inform interested parties of the proposed activity and to solicit comments. **This notice may also be viewed at the Corps web site at <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/regulatory.html>.**

**AUTHORITY:** This application is being evaluated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

**APPLICANT:** City of Elk Grove  
Robert Lee  
8400 Laguna Palms Way  
Elk Grove, California 95758  
916-478-2227

**LOCATION:** The project site is located in Elk Grove in Section 18, Township 6 North, Range 6 East, MDB&M, Sacramento County, California, and can be seen on the Elk Grove and Galt USGS Topographic Quadrangle map.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Based on the information provide the overall project purpose is to increase the level of service at the interchange to meet current and future traffic needs. The applicant believes there is a need to expand the existing interchange and reroute local roadways in order to accommodate increased traffic demands generated by planned and future growth in the area. The attached drawings provide project design information and resource impact details.

The applicant is proposing to expand the existing interchange, realign East Stockton Boulevard and expand West Stockton Boulevard. The proposed project footprint would result in a loss of 1.51 acres of waters, including wetlands from the placement of fill material into these features to create the new road base. These waters are tributaries to the Sacramento River. There may be other indirect impacts to waters, including wetlands which have not been determined at this time.

The expansion would include new on and off ramps, a new freeway overpass, and widening and relocation of adjacent roadways. Grant Line Road would be expanded from West Stockton Boulevard to the west 775-feet. City planning documents indicate that Grant Line Road

extension will eventually connect to the proposed Promenade Parkway and Kammerer Road. This connection is suppose to be part of the Lent Ranch Market Place project, which will require a permit from the Corps of Engineers and other agencies.

A temporary access road will be constructed from West Stockton Boulevard to Grant line Road and then to Kammerer Road to divert traffic during the interchange construction. The road will have permanent impacts to waters, including wetlands.

East Stockton Boulevard would be realigned 735 feet east of its current location and will join CMD Court (currently a cul-de-sac roadway) and intersect with Grant Line Road. The new overpass would be constructed to the full projected level of eight lanes but would operate under a six lane configuration. State Route 99 will remain a four lane freeway and the new overpass will not impact any future plans for the highway. The attached drawings provide project design information and resource impact details.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**Environmental Setting.** There are approximately 1.62 acres of waters, including wetlands within the 78 acre project area. The project as proposed would impact 0.338 of vernal pools, 0.858 acres of seasonal wetlands, 0.086 acres of emergent wetlands, and 0.226 acres of seasonal drainage. These jurisdictional waters are adjacent and tributary to the Sacramento River.

The eastern portion of the project area consists of commercial, industrial, and some disturbed undeveloped properties. This area includes gas stations, manufacturing businesses, and retail businesses. The undeveloped properties and current interchange area contain undeveloped grasslands and fallow agricultural fields which contain wetland and upland areas.

The western portion of the project area consists primarily of large tract agricultural land (hay crops) with private residences. The Grant Line Road will be extended to the west onto the Lent Ranch property. Portions of this extension would impact waters, including wetlands. The seasonal drainage on the Lent Ranch Property is a tributary to the Sacramento River.

The Lent Ranch property and other adjacent properties within the City boundary have been identified by the City of Elk Grove as future private development areas. The City has identified these properties to the west of Grant Line Interchange as future sites of Lent Ranch Market Place, South Pointe residential and commercial developments, and the Elk Grove Auto Mall expansion.

**Alternatives.** The applicant has provided information about two other project alternatives. The first alternative or "Blue alternative" would impact approximately 0.10 acres more wetlands than the proposed project. The second alternative or "Yellow alternative" would impact 0.10 acres less wetlands than the proposed project.

Additional information concerning project alternatives may be available from the applicant or their agent. Other alternatives may develop during the review process for this permit application. All reasonable project alternatives, in particular those which may be less damaging to the aquatic environment, will be considered.

**Mitigation.** The Corps requires that applicants consider and use all reasonable and practical measures to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic resources. If the applicant is unable to avoid or minimize all impacts, the Corps may require compensatory mitigation. The applicant is proposing to provide an off-site mitigation plan which would create wetlands, including waters at an unknown location. The proposed mitigation plans have not been provided.

**OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS:** Water quality certification or a waiver, as required under Section 401 and 402 of the Clean Water Act from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB) is required for this project. The applicant has indicated they will apply for this certification. The City of Elk Grove approved its CEQA document on April 8, 2004. The City is waiting for the State of California Department of Transportation to approve an encroachment permit for the proposed project.

**HISTORIC PROPERTIES:** The Corps will initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Preservation Act, as appropriate.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The proposed activity may affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. The Corps will initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as appropriate.

The Section 7 consultation will include the following species: giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*), vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), or designated critical habitat.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** The proposed project will not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as defined in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The above determinations are based on information provided by the applicant and our preliminary review.

**EVALUATION FACTORS:** The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the described activity, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the described activity will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The activity's impact on the public interest will include application of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (40 CFR Part 230).

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

**SUBMITTING COMMENTS:** Written comments, referencing Public Notice 199900299, must be submitted to the office listed below on or before **March 5, 2006**:

Paul Maniccia, Project Manager  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  
Sacramento Office  
1325 J Street, Room 1480  
Sacramento, California 95814-2922  
Email: [Paul.M.Maniccia@usace.army.mil](mailto:Paul.M.Maniccia@usace.army.mil)

The Corps is particularly interested in receiving comments related to the proposal's probable impacts on the affected aquatic environment and the secondary and cumulative effects. Anyone may request, in writing, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests shall specifically state, with particularity, the reason(s) for holding a public hearing. If the Corps determines that the information received in response to this notice is inadequate for thorough evaluation, a public hearing may be warranted. If a public hearing is warranted, interested parties will be notified of the time, date, and location. Please note that all comment letters received are subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. If you have questions or need additional information please contact the applicant or the Corps' project manager Paul Maniccia, 916-557-6704, [Paul.M.Maniccia@usace.army.mil](mailto:Paul.M.Maniccia@usace.army.mil).

Attachments: 4 drawings